

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE JEFFRIES

• Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, today I ask the Senate to join me in recognizing Coach Willie Jeffries on the occasion of his induction into the College Football Hall of Fame on Saturday, July 17, 2010. Willie Jeffries is a legend in the State of South Carolina. As the first African-American head coach of a NCAA Division I-A football program, he was a giant in the football world, and proved to be an incredible leader both on and off the field.

Coach Jeffries was born in Union, SC, on January 4, 1937. He graduated from South Carolina State University, SCSU, where he would later return as the head football coach. If there was ever a "glass is half full" guy, it was Willie Jeffries. Coach Jeffries was defined by his optimistic outlook on life and the world around him.

Willie Jeffries began his career at South Carolina State University where he served as coach from 1973–1978. From there, he went on to become head coach at Wichita State University in 1979. With his hiring, Coach Jeffries became the first African-American head coach of a NCAA Division I-A program. After winning only one game his first season, he held the post for five seasons and led his team to an 8–2 record his third year. During his tenure at Wichita State University, Coach Jeffries became the only man to coach against legendary coaches Eddie Robinson of Grambling and Paul "Bear" Bryant of the Alabama. He left Wichita State University with a record of 21–32–2, ranking him third in university history for total wins.

From 1984–1988 Coach Jeffries took over the program at Howard University, leading them to the first of his seven Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference—MEAC—Championships. In 1989 he returned to his alma mater to take his position as head coach for the South Carolina State University Bulldogs. Coach Jeffries finished out his career as the head coach of South Carolina State.

During his time in coaching, he led his teams to numerous post-season appearances, six Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference—MEAC—titles, and two Black college national championships. Coach Jeffries won almost 60 percent of the games he coached, and when he retired in 2001 he did so as the winningest coach in MEAC history with a 179–132–6 career record. In 2010, South Carolina State University further honored him by naming him Head Football Coach Emeritus by the University Board of Trustees.

Throughout his career, Coach Jeffries was named coach of the year on eight different occasions. In 2002 he was awarded the lifetime achievement award by the Black Coaches Association. In addition to being an inductee of both the MEAC Hall of Fame and SCSU Athletic Hall of Fame, Jeffries was awarded the Order of the Silver Crescent in 2001. This is South Carolina's highest honor for Outstanding Community Service.

Coach Jeffries success on the field is not only matched but exceeded by his actions off the field. He possesses a great spirit of optimism, humor, intellect, and decency that has made him a role model for all the young men he has coached and those of us who call him a friend.

I ask that the U.S. Senate join me in honoring him for his impressive coaching career and newest honor as an inductee into the College Football Hall of Fame.●

2010 ALTUS GRAPE FESTIVAL

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I join residents of Altus and all Arkansans to commemorate the 2010 Altus Grape Festival.

For 27 years, the Altus Grape Festival has celebrated area grape growers and recognized the heritage of the grape in Altus. The festival is sponsored each year by the area's local wineries—Post Familie, Mount Bethel, Wiederkehr, and Chateau Aux Arc—and by area grape growers, businesses, civic organizations and residents.

Known as the "Arkansas Wine Capital," Altus welcomes visitors from across the State, Nation, and world to celebrate the area's rich heritage during the festival. The 2-day event features a variety of activities, including a Friday night street dance and fireworks display, live music, grape-related games for children and adults, a grape stomp competition, quality juried arts and crafts, and wine and juice tasting by all local wineries. Amateur winemakers are also invited to bring the best of their homemade wine to the Amateur Winemaking Competition.

I commend the residents of the Altus area for their commitment to the history and heritage of Arkansas. I wish them all the best as they celebrate during this year's Grape Festival.●

ARKANSAS'S DELEGATES TO BOYS NATION AND GIRLS NATION

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I recognize four young Arkansans who have represented our State during Boys Nation and Girls Nation events in Washington, DC. These students represent the best of our State, and I was proud to visit with them during their trip to our Nation's Capitol.

Arkansas's Boys Nation delegates for 2010 are Alex Geiger from North Little Rock and Joseph Kieklak from Fayetteville. Arkansas's Girls Nation delegates for 2010 are Brittany Webb of Jonesboro and Devika Menta of Conway. These students were also a part of Boys State and Girls State, held earlier this summer in Arkansas.

I commend our Boys and Girls State delegates for their dedication and commitment to learning about our Nation's legislative process on the local, State, and Federal levels. The knowledge they gain will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

As a former delegate, I can say that attending Girls State was one of several experiences that heightened my passion for public service. It was a huge part of my overall process of growing up and learning to respect our country, government, and fellow man.

Sponsored by the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, Boys and Girls Nation brings together high school students from across the country to learn about government and citizenship.

I also comment the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, of which I am a member, for their efforts to educate and inform our Nation's youth.●

2010 ARKANSAS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate recipients of the 2010 Arkansas Community Service Awards. I am proud of their dedication to helping fellow Arkansans, and I commend their spirit of volunteerism, community involvement, and service. These men and women represent the best of Arkansas, and I congratulate them on this prestigious recognition.

This year's winners are:

INDIVIDUAL

Neta Stamps of Berryville
James Brown of Norphlet
Lorrie Lindeman of Heber Springs
Raul Blasini of Pochontas
Theodoshia Cooper of Little Rock
Stella Lowe of Little Rock

YOUTH HUMANITARIAN

Matt Eckess of Maumelle

SMALL CORPORATE HUMANITARIAN

Reynolds Forestry Consulting and Real Estate of Magnolia

LARGE CORPORATE

CenterPoint Entergy

For 32 years the Arkansas Community Service Awards have recognized individuals and businesses for their dedication and commitment to supporting volunteerism throughout Arkansas. The awards are sponsored by the Department of Human Services-Division of Volunteerism, DOV, KARK Channel 4, the Governor's Office, and Duncan Law Firm.

We all know the challenges that face our State and Nation. Community service is a critical component of tackling these challenges and making us stronger. I encourage all Arkansans to embrace the spirit of volunteerism and community service on display by this year's Community Service Award winners. Working together, we can make a difference in our local communities and across our great State.●

ARKANSAS HISTORIC SITES

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I recognize two Arkansas historic sites that have been added to the National Register of Historic Places. These Arkansas landmarks help define our State's history and heritage, and I am